

HOW TO FILE A TIME EXTENSION FOR THE MANDATED TRAINING FOR FULL-TIME FIREFIGHTERS

The State law requires that time extensions be afforded in certain instances:

§21-P:29 Educational and Training Requirements; Certification. –

I. No person shall be appointed as a full-time career firefighter, except on a temporary or probationary basis, unless such person has satisfactorily completed a preparatory program of fire training approved by the commission. From time to time as it deems advisable, the commission may adopt additional educational and training standards, as authorized under RSA 21-P:27, II, to be met by the full-time career firefighters subject to that paragraph, provided that no person shall be excluded from such employment on the basis of any rule adopted under RSA 21-P:27, II, until such rule has been in effect for at least one year. **No firefighter who lacks the educational and training qualifications required by this paragraph may have his temporary or probationary employment extended beyond 2 years.**

The Code of Administrative Rules dictates the reasons and ability to apply for such an extension:

Fire 701.03 Mandatory Standards Time Extensions.

(a) The commission shall extend a time limit established in these rules, up to the statutorily allowed maximum under RSA 21-P:29, I, to a department or the person on presentation of evidence by the hiring authority or the person that the fire fighter is unable to complete the required courses within the prescribed time period because of:

- (1) Illness;
- (2) Injury;
- (3) Military service;
- (4) Special duty assignments; or
- (5) The unavailability of an instructor, a course, or a program.

Method to application:

- 1) Submit a letter of request to the Executive Officer, New Hampshire Fire Standards and Training Commission, 33 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03305-0001 to be received as early as possible when this rule appears that it can not be met. This letter must be submitted by the fire chief, or approved by the fire chief.
- 2) Include in this request:
 - Name of employee requiring a time extension
 - Why the time extension is required, assuring it complies with the reasons outlined in the rule above.
 - Include the steps to be taken, with class dates, to acquire the mandated training.
- 3) The request shall be submitted to the New Hampshire Fire Standards and Training Commission for their review and approval or denial at their next regularly scheduled meeting.
- 4) You will receive written information within 5 working days of said meeting.